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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3676**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/049,230
Applicant : Manfred Dilger, et al.
Filed : 06/10/2002
TC/A.U. : 3676
Examiner : Vishal A. Patel

Docket No. : 225MU/50870
Customer No. : 23911

Confirmation No. 9509

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 23, 2003, for which a response is due on December 23, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

Docket No: 225MU/50870

Page 1 of 16

RLG/mns

3 Park Plaza, 20th floor, Irvine, CA 92614-8505 • p949-263-8400•pf949-263-8414**crowell moring****RECEIVED
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Deliver to: Examiner Vishal A. Patel Art Group: 3626
 Facsimile No.: (703) 872-9306 Date: December 19, 2003
 From: Robert L. Grabarek, Jr. Reg. No. 40,625
 Our Docket No.: 225MD/50870 Number of pages 17 including this sheet.
 Application No.: 10/049,230 Filing Date: 6/10/2002
 User ID: 5942/mns Docket Due Date(s): 12/23/2003

Enclosed are the following documents:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment: <u>After Final 16 pgs.</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Issue Fee Transmittal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Brief (in triplicate) (<u> </u> pgs) | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Appeal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application: _____
<u>(</u> pgs) w/cover & abstract) | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment & Cover Sheet (<u> </u> pgs) | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Continued Examination (RCE) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of <u>Facsimile</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Reply Brief (<u> </u> pgs) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) | <input type="checkbox"/> Request & Certification Under 35 USC 122(b)(2)(B)(i) |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Drawings: <u> </u> sheets, <u> </u> figures | <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Notice of Missing Parts & Formalities Letter |
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office.



Robert L. Grabarek, Jr. 12/19/03

Date

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